

Serial No. 10/604,008
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Page 2 of 14

Examiner: Amy J. Sterling
Group Art Unit: 3632

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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) A gas cylinder base for supporting in an upright position thereon a gas cylinder having a base ring comprising at least one base ring aperture therethrough, comprising:
a base skirt having a first lateral dimension, and
a support element extending upwardly from the base skirt, defining a second lateral dimension less than the first lateral dimension, and adapted to slidably receive the base ring of the gas cylinder, the support element comprising at least one fastener for attaching the gas cylinder base to the gas cylinder,
wherein the at least one fastener is adapted to engage the base ring to attach the gas cylinder base to the gas cylinder.
2. (Original) The gas cylinder base of claim 1 wherein the first lateral dimension is greater than the diameter of the gas cylinder.
3. (Original) The gas cylinder base of claim 1 wherein the support element further comprises at least one aperture therethrough.
4. (Original) The gas cylinder base of claim 3 wherein the at least one aperture is threaded.
5. (Original) The gas cylinder base of claim 4 wherein the at least one fastener is threaded.
6. (Original) The gas cylinder base of claim 5 wherein the fastener is a thumb screw.
7. (Original) The gas cylinder base of claim 5 wherein the at least one fastener is threadably inserted into the at least one aperture.
8. (Original) The gas cylinder base of claim 5 wherein the at least one fastener is provided with a point at an end thereof for engaging the base ring.
9. (Currently amended) The gas cylinder base of claim 7 wherein the at least one fastener is insertable ~~inserted into the~~ at least one base ring aperture.
10. (Original) The gas cylinder base of claim 1 wherein the support element comprises a continuous support ring.
11. (Original) The gas cylinder base of claim 10 wherein the support ring terminates in a

Serial No. 10/604,008

Filed: June 20, 2003

Page 3 of 14

Examiner: Amy J. Sterling
Group Art Unit: 3632

radially-inwardly sloping chamfered end.

12. (Withdrawn) The gas cylinder base of claim 1 wherein the support element comprises a plurality of discontinuous lugs.
13. (Withdrawn) The gas cylinder base of claim 12 wherein each lug terminates in a radially-inwardly sloping chamfered end.
14. (Original) The gas cylinder base of claim 1 wherein the base skirt is circular.
15. (Original) The gas cylinder base of claim 1 wherein the support element is coaxial with the base skirt.
16. (Withdrawn) The gas cylinder base of claim 1 wherein the support element comprises at least one detent.
17. (Original) A gas cylinder support assembly comprising:
 - a gas cylinder having a base ring attached thereto comprising at least one base ring aperture therethrough, and
 - a gas cylinder base comprising
 - a base skirt having a first lateral dimension, and
 - a support element extending upwardly from the base skirt, defining a second lateral dimension less than the first lateral dimension, and adapted to slidably receive the base ring of the gas cylinder, the support element comprising at least one fastener for attaching the gas cylinder base to the gas cylinder,
 - wherein the at least one fastener is adapted to engage the base ring to attach the gas cylinder base to the gas cylinder.
18. (Original) The gas cylinder support assembly of claim 17 wherein the diameter of the base skirt is greater than the diameter of the gas cylinder.
19. (Original) The gas cylinder support assembly of claim 17 wherein the support element further comprises at least one aperture therethrough.
20. (Original) The gas cylinder support assembly of claim 19 wherein the at least one aperture is threaded.
21. (Original) The gas cylinder support assembly of claim 20 wherein the at least one fastener is threaded.
22. (Original) The gas cylinder support assembly of claim 21 wherein the fastener is a thumb

Serial No. 10/604,008

Filed: June 20, 2003

Page 4 of 14

Examiner: Amy J. Sterling
Group Art Unit: 3632

screw.

23. (Original) The gas cylinder support assembly of claim 21 wherein the at least one fastener is threadably inserted into the at least one aperture.
24. (Original) The gas cylinder support assembly of claim 21 wherein the at least one fastener is provided with a point at an end thereof for engaging the base ring.
25. (Original) The gas cylinder support assembly of claim 24 wherein the at least one fastener is inserted into the at least one base ring aperture.
26. (Original) The gas cylinder support assembly of claim 17 wherein the support element comprises a continuous support ring.
27. (Original) The gas cylinder support assembly of claim 26 wherein the support ring terminates in a radially-inwardly sloping chamfered end.
28. (Withdrawn) The gas cylinder support assembly of claim 17 wherein the support element comprises a plurality of discontinuous lugs.
29. (Withdrawn) The gas cylinder base of claim 28 wherein each lug terminates in a radially-inwardly sloping chamfered end.
30. (Original) The gas cylinder base of claim 17 wherein the base skirt is circular.
31. (Original) The gas cylinder base of claim 17 wherein the support element is coaxial with the base skirt.
32. (Withdrawn) The gas cylinder base of claim 17 wherein the support element comprises at least one detent.